

Message Text

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SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
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USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
FPA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 NATO 06796

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: REPORT OF DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE (DPC)
MEETING OF JULY 13, 1977

REF: (A) USNATO 5703 DTG 202108Z JUN 77, (B) USNATO 6595
DTG 081802Z JUL 77, (C) STATE 162514 DTG 130121Z JUL 77,
(D) USNATO 6431 DTG 051617Z JUL 77, (E) STATE 160992
DTG 112308Z JUL 77, (F) STATE 158134 DTG 072217Z JUL 77

SUMMARY: THE DPC, AT ITS JULY 13, 1977 MEETING, ADDRESSED
(1) WINTEX/CIMEX 79 AND, AS A RELATED ISSUE, HILEX-8, (2)
PLAN CHARLIE AND (3) UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS, SYG PO/77/
100 ON WHICH THE US BROKE SILENCE ON JULY 11, 1977. ACTION
REQUESTED: SEE PARA 6 BELOW. END SUMMARY.

1. UNDER AGENDA ITEM 1, THE DPC ADDRESSED PO/77/95 (REF A)
AND DPC SPONSORSHIP OF WINTEX/CIMEX 79. FOLLOWING AN
INITIAL PRESENTATION BY THE SYG, WHICH GENERALLY ACKNOW-
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LEDGED THAT MOST IMPEDIMENTS TO THE EXERCISE HAD BEEN OVER-
COME AND NOTED SCEPC AGREEMENT THAT CIVIL PLAY WAS POSSIBLE,
DEPUTY CMC (COLLADAY) GAVE A STRONG MC AND SACEUR ENDORSE-
MENT TO THE EXERCISE.

2. A "TOUR DE TABLE" REVEALED THAT ALL DELEGATIONS SUP-
PORTED, AT LEAST IN PRINCIPLE, THE CONDUCT OF WINTEX/CIMEX

79. HARDY (CANADA) USED THE OCCASION TO RESTATE CANADA'S POSITION THAT THERE WERE TOO MANY EXERCISES AND HILEX-8 SHOULD BE CANCELLED. HE SUPPORTED WINTEX/CIMEX 79, NOTING THAT THE DPC SHOULD BE INVOLVED IN DECISIONS INVOLVING SIMPLE ALERT, GENERAL ALERT, IDENTIFICATION OF HOSTILE NATIONS AND NUCLEAR PLAY, AND THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE IF THEY WERE INVOLVED IN REINFORCED ALERT, REINFORCEMENT OF EUROPE AND THE REFUGEE PROBLEM. HE ALSO NOTED THAT, IF A RESPONSE CELL (FOR THE DPC) IS USED, IT SHOULD APPROXIMATE REAL LIFE, NOT ACT AS A RUBBER STAMP. AS A FINAL NOTE, HE SAID CANADA WOULD GO ALONG WITH THE CONSENSUS.

3. ALL REMAINING REPRESENTATIVES WHO SPOKE (UK, NORWAY, NETHERLANDS, ITALY, DENMARK, BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG AND US) OFFERED SUPPORT IN VARYING DEGREES FOR BOTH EXERCISES. THE PRINCIPAL CONCERN VOICED BY ITALY, DENMARK, NETHERLANDS AND CANADA WAS THE DEGREE OF PARTICIPATION IN WINTEX. THE CONSENSUS SEEMED TO BE TO LIMIT ACTIVE PARTICIPATION TO 5-7 DAYS, NOT NECESSARILY CONSECUTIVELY.

4. KIRCA (TURKEY) ASKED WHAT IMPACT EXERCISE PLAY WOULD HAVE ON THE POLITICAL DIRECTORATE (AS HIGHLIGHTED IN PO/77/95). ASYG FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS (JUNG) SAID THE WORST IMPACT WOULD BE IN 1979, BUT IMPLIED THAT THE IMPACT WOULD NOT BE GREAT. HARDY AGAIN CALLED FOR ELIMINATION OF HILEX-8, TO WHICH SYG LUNS, NOTING THE DEMANDS POSED BY THE NEW CONFIDENTIAL

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INITIATIVES PROGRAM, RESPONDED THAT HE WOULD NOT OPPOSE CANCELLING HILEX-8. HARDY, PICKING UP LUNS' POINT, SUGGESTED THAT PLAYING HILEX-8 IN MARCH 1978 WOULD IMPACT ADVERSELY ON THE NEW NATO INITIATIVES PROGRAM AND PLANS FOR THE SPRING DPC AND SUMMIT.

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5. SVART (DENMARK) SUGGESTED DEFERRING A DECISION ON HILEX-8 UNTIL LATER. SYG LUNS SUGGESTED SEPTEMBER. SEVERAL, INCLUDING THE US, NORWAY AND THE MC REPS, SAID THAT WAS TOO LONG AND SUGGESTED THE JULY 28, 1977 DPC MEETING. CATALANO (ITALY) SAID BOTH EXERCISES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED CONCURRENTLY -- HE WAS ADAMANT ON THIS POINT. IN THE END, DECISION ON HILEX-8 AND WINTEX/CIMEX 79 WAS DEFERRED UNTIL AT LEAST THE NEXT DPC, TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR JULY 28, 1977.

6. COMMENT: IN OUR VIEW, FAILURE TO REACH A DECISION RESULTED FROM A SERIES OF MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND A DESIRE BY CANADA AND, WE BELIEVE, THE SYG, TO CANCEL HILEX-8. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT WINTEX/CIMEX 79 WILL BE APPROVED AND BELIEVE THAT A MAJORITY CONTINUE TO FAVOR HILEX-8. AN INTERESTING FALLOUT FROM THE DISCUSSION WAS THE QUESTION OF THE IMPACT THAT HILEX-8 MIGHT HAVE ON THE LONG-TERM

INITIATIVES PROGRAM. WHILE IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE LARGER NATIONS WOULD BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED, SOME CAPITALS HAVE INDICATED THEY MAY NOT BE ABLE TO SUPPORT FULLY BOTH THE LONG-TERM INITIATIVES PROGRAM AND THE HILEX-8 EXERCISE. THEREFORE, WE MAY SEE A GROWING SENTIMENT ON THE PART OF SMALLER COUNTRIES TO FOREGO HILEX-8. WE BELIEVE THE US SHOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT HILEX AS WELL AS WINTEX/CIMEX, ALTHOUGH SOME FLEXIBILITY IN THE LENGTH OF DPC PLAY DURING WINTEX/CIMEX 79 MAY BE NECESSARY. ACCORDINGLY, WE RECOMMEND THAT WE BE ALLOWED TO AGREE TO A SHORTENED PERIOD OF

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USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 NATO 06796

WINTEX/CIMEX PLAY, IF NECESSARY. END COMMENT. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY OOB JULY 27, 1977.

7. UNDER ITEM II, THE DPC APPROVED THE RECOMMENDATION IN PARAGRAPH 4 OF PO/77/101 (REF D AND E).

8. UNDER "ANY OTHER BUSINESS" THE SYG RAISED THE US INTERVENTION ON PO/77/100 (REF F) IN WHICH WE HAD BROKEN SILENCE AND REQUESTED THAT THE DPC ARRANGE FOR THE CNAD TO STUDY THE SECDEF'S PROPOSAL TO ACCELERATE INTEROPERABILITY OF TACTICAL AREA COMMUNICATIONS. WE HAD ASKED THAT, IF POSSIBLE, THE DPC CONSIDER THIS ACTION AT ITS MEETING ON JULY 13. THE SYG NOTED THE US REQUEST AND PROPOSED THAT THE DPC AGREE. THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, THE SYG ANNOUNCED THAT HE WOULD ASK THE NADREPS TO TAKE UP FURTHER ACTION AT THEIR MEETING ON JULY 18, 1977. COMMENT: WE SHALL SEEK AT

THAT MEETING TO HAVE THE NADREPS FURTHER ASSIGN THIS ACTION
TO THE TRI-SERVICE GROUP ON C-E EQUIPMENT, END COMMENT.
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